

**WARREN COUNTY COUNCIL MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2018**

The Warren County Council were sworn in for their first meeting of December 2018 by Debra Hiatt, Clerk. Present for the meeting were: John Comer, Adam Hanthorne, Steve McIntosh, George Taylor, Clay Andrews, Lee Kay and Sharon Hutchison. Also, in attendance were Tom Hetrick, Becky Ehler, Brian Jordan and Steve Eberly.

1. The meeting was called to order by John Comer, Council President.
2. Pledge of Allegiance was led by John Comer.
3. New Business:
 - a. Sharon Hutchison made a motion to approve the November 26, 2018 minutes with a second from Lee Kay, all voted in favor and the minutes were signed.
 - b. 2019 Salary Ordinance – Lee Kay made a motion to accept the 2019 Salary Ordinance from the July Budget session with a second by Clay Andrews, all voted in favor and the ordinance was signed.
 - c. 2018 Budget to 2019 Budget Encumbrances – Steve McIntosh made a motion to approve the encumbrances seconded by George Taylor, all voted in favor.
4. Elected Official/Officer Holder Comment:
 - a. Tom Hetrick, Commissioner, explained the fence at the County Farm and that we have 9 ¼ miles of fence that is very old. Hetrick presented verbal estimates to the Council. Woven wire ¼ mile/\$5,250 for material and labor and 6 strands of barbed wire ¼ mile/\$4750. Hetrick suggests barbed wire. Hetrick presented estimates on clearing at \$6,000 and \$6,800 per ¼ mile. In total \$120,000 approximately to do the entire fence which includes gates and extra fence as these are rough estimates. Hetrick explained that the County is bringing in \$36,000 average yearly income and he is proposing using the funds to complete this project over a 4-5 year period. Hetrick further explained that, in his opinion, moving the cattle off the pasture would be a problem and ¼ miles sections would be better. Hetrick suggests that the Commissioners will oversee the project. The new fence would last 40 years or more. Hetrick stated that we inherited the farm and it is our responsibility to maintain. Lee Kay inquired about the \$36,000 being included in the general fund budget which would possibly increase tax rates. Steve McIntosh stated that the current contracted lessee had a couple of cows out last night. There is \$2,000 in the budget for repair and maintenance and these funds will possibly patch up the fences. Hetrick suggested again to use the income from the County Farm each year to repair the fences over time. This would not take funds from the County finances as we need to judiciously spend funds. There have been several projects this year that have used a lot of funds such as the courthouse, County Road 1100, etc. Hetrick recommends spending the amount of income from the farm. Comer inquired if there will be a better price if purchased all at once rather than over time. Hetrick stated that there really isn't much savings to pay at one time rather than over a period of time. The average income for the County Farm is approximately \$36,000 per year. Comer asked that the Commissioners present a recommendation and bids to the Council at the next meeting. Hetrick stated that the current rent is \$900. Adam Hanthorne stated that he has researched and the average rate is \$40/acre. Steve McIntosh made a motion to proceed with the fence project at the County Farm with the establishment of a new fund with the revenue from the County Farm with a second from Clay Andrews, all voted in favor.
 - b. Steve Eberly, Commissioner, presented a plaque to Steve McIntosh for his service on the County Council.
 - c. Lee Kay thanked Steve Eberly, Commissioner, for his service as well.
 - d. Brian Jordan, Commissioner, explained the Executive Session interviewing County Attorneys on Friday December 21st at 6:00 p.m. and invited the Council to attend.
 - e. Robin Weston-Hubner, Auditor, stated that the Fall 2018 Settlement has been completed and introduced her new Deputy Charity Perigo to the Commissioners and Council.
 - f. Lee Kay thanked Becky Ehler for her work over the years with the County.

The next County Council meeting will be January 28, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

There being no further business, Steve McIntosh made a motion to adjourn with a second from George Taylor.

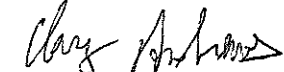
ATTEST:


Robin Weston-Hubner

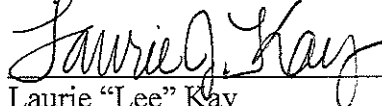
WARREN COUNTY COUNCIL


John Comer, President

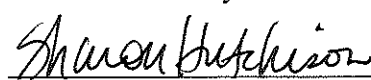
Neil Ellis



Clay Andrews



Laurie "Lee" Kay



Sharon Hutchison

Matt Commons

George Taylor